

## REMARKS

### **I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1, 2, 4-14, 16, 18, 20-23, and 28-30 were pending at the time of the Office Action. Claims 1, 4, 11, and 28 have been amended and claims 32-34 have been added. No claims have been withdrawn or cancelled. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 4-14, 16, 18, 20-23, 28-30 and 32-34 remain pending and under consideration. Applicant notes that claim 4 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

### **II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103**

#### **A. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 28, 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,750,039 to Bargoot *et al.* ("Bargoot"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, in an effort to obtain a timely Notice of Allowance, Applicant has amended claims 1, 11 and 28 to include additional limitations suggested by the Examiner. *See* Office Action, p. 6 ("Applicant needs to claim the physical walls of the compartment and then claim an open part of the compartment with a door that closes when the platform is inserted into the compartment to create an enclosure that is sealed from the surrounding area outside the compartment.")

Specifically, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 11 and 28 to require a container including a compartment comprising walls defining an opening, where the opening is covered by a door pivotally coupled to the container. Applicant has also amended the independent claims to require door being movable between a closed position wherein said platform is sealed within the compartment from the surrounding area outside the compartment, and an open position wherein said platform is exposed. Bargoot does not disclose such a configuration. Accordingly, claims 1, 11 and 28 are not anticipated by Bargoot. Claims 4, 8, 12, 15, 16, 18, 30 and 31 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, 11 or 28 and are allowable over the cited reference for at least the reasons provided above for claims 1, 11 and 28.

### **B. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 2, 5, 9, 10, 14, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bargoot in view of U.S. Patent 5,872,713 to Douglas *et al.* ("Douglas '713").

Claims 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, and 20-23 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1 or 11 and are patentable for at least the reasons provided above for claims 1 and 11.

### **III. Conclusion**

It is believed that the present case is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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